

Abstract

5       A method of utilizing timestamps for the global ordering of event information,  
particularly hardware error reporting, is disclosed. Locally generated time stamps are  
associated with hardware errors or other events. The timestamps form the basis for the global  
ordering of event information. The timestamps are normalized, either through a pre-  
synchronization process with a common time, or through the use of offsets maintained either  
locally near system chips or by the system processor. Once normalized, the timestamps can  
10   be compared to determine a first occurring event among multiple reported events.